Since most of the soiled areas are usually near the margin of the sheet, it might be feasible to remove it with an art gum eraser. Actually, this tends to smudge and leaves the paper streaked rather than clean.

The idea of using wallpaper cleaner of the pliable putty type occurred to me, and this was tried with very good results. This material can be purchased from most paint or hardware stores and comes in vacuum sealed tins. Several different brands have been used and all proved to be equally satisfactory. When the can is opened, the unused cleaner may be stored in screw-top glass jars to prevent it from drying out. For cleaning a specimen, we use a small portion (about the size of a golf ball) and this is also stored in a screw-top jar. In use, the cleaner must be kneaded thoroughly to keep it pliable and to work the dirt in. It gives satisfactory results until the ball is quite black, when it is discarded for a fresh piece. If there is dust close to the specimen, the cleaner may be rolled into a small cylinder and used like a pencil. Care must be exercised, however, since hairs, flower parts, etc., will adhere to the cleaner and thus be removed.

This method has been used in the Yale Herbarium for the past six months with excellent results. The idea is offered here in the hope that it may be found equally useful by others who have similar problems. — JOHN EBINGER, OSBORN BOTANICAL LABORATORY, YALE UNIVERSITY.

RHODODENDRON MAXIMUM IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.[1] — The valuable paper by the late C. H. Knowlton (5) on *Rhododendron maximum in New England* unfortunately contains some errors and omissions for New Hampshire. Recently Iltis (4) has quite understandably accepted Knowlton's data and has included his stations on a map covering the range of the species.

In the past few years we have tried to visit all recorded New Hampshire colonies of *R. maximum* and thus have become aware of the faults in recent publications. But before reporting on these, we have wanted to check all possible clues to new stations.

[1] Published with the approval of the Director of the New Hampshire Agriculture Experiment Station as Scientific Contribution No. 232.

Our first comment relates to the colony, chiefly in the township of Pittsfield, which was first reported by R. J. Eaton (2). It was assumed both by Eaton, and until recently, by the senior author of this paper, that a small part of the stand was in Strafford County in the township of Strafford, the remainder or larger part being in Pittsfield. Knowlton, loc. cit. counted this colony as two separate stations presumably because it was reported from two townships and Iltis has perpetuated the error by showing two dots on his map in the vicinity of Pittsfield, New Hampshire. The senior author has visited this area at least a half-dozen times in the years since June 29, 1931 when he was first shown the plants by Robert Varney of Barrington, New Hampshire. These visits, including our most recent one on July 7, 1954, have shown no significant expansion or contraction of the colony in 23 years. In 1954 we made a very careful comparison of map-details with the local topography. It is evident that the plants are not in Strafford County at all and that the nearest plant is somewhat more than 100 feet from the line as shown on the Alton Quadrangle. But it is interesting to note that the colony does extend westward along the hemlock-shaded shore of Adams Pond into the township of Barnstead in Belknap County. Near Adams Pond 3 townships and 3 counties converge and this single small colony of *Rhododendron,* covering possibly half an acre, almost stretches into all of them.

Recent authors have lost sight of the Manchester Rhododendrons though at certain times during the past 60 years they may have been more numerous there than in any other part of New Hampshire. W. E. Moore (6) reported the presence of a tremendous area of Rhododendrons about 2 miles northwest of Amoskeag Falls. Then on December 11, in the same year (1897) F. W. Batchelder wrote an article for the "Manchester Union" entitled "A Day In My Arboretum" in which he commented on the occurrence in Manchester of *Rhododendron,* White Cedar and other interesting species of woody plants. Two years later Batchelder (1), this time, for a more critical audience, discussed the local Rhododendrons. Thus, there is good evidence, in the literature, that our plant occurred in Manchester in some abun-

dance at the turn of the century. More recently the late Reverend Hubert Sheehan, OSB of St. Anselm's College collected material from Black Brook Cedar Bog in Manchester and before this in 1935, Dr. Maurice Provost of Vero Beach, Florida, then a student at St. Anselm's College, discovered another stand from which he collected specimens. The authors of this paper singly or together have now visited both of these stations and in addition have found *Rhododendron* in one other locality within the confines of Manchester. At least 2 of these 3 colonies probably have been separate for a long time. The other 2 occur in distant parts of the same swamp and quite possibly were joined 60 years ago.

With one exception (the Albany station on Mt. Chocorua) we have succeeded in relocating all of the New Hampshire stations listed by Knowlton loc. cit. The evidence is reasonably good in this instance that there was a colony on Mt. Chocorua (3) but from the drastic changes that we have noted taking place in other stands as a result of lumbering operations, swamp-flooding, browsing by deer, etc., it is quite likely that the Rhododendrons there may have been completely destroyed or reduced to a few inconspicuous individuals.

Specimens from all stations visited by the authors have been collected and are to be found either in the Herbarium of the University of New Hampshire or that of the New England Botanical Club. — A. R. HODGDON AND R. PIKE, DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY AND DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE, RESPECTIVELY, UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DURHAM.

CLAUDE FAVARGER. Flore et vegetat'on des Alps. I. Etage alpin. II. Etage subalpin. 271 & 274 pp., with 32 + 32 planches and 35 + 41 drawings by Paul A. Robert. Delachaux & Niestle S.A., Neuchatel & Paris 1957 & 1958. Price Swiss Fr. 30.00.

FLORA AND VEGETATION OF THE ALPS.[1] — The Alps are among the regions most botanists and all those interested in the vegetation of mountains and northlands want to visit and study, although only a few of those living in distant countries ever get an opportunity to climb the lofty peaks and enjoy the multitude of flowers. The majority has to be content with descriptions by others and they also must study the

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